REMARKS

In order to be responsive to the Advisory Action of October 2, 2002, applicants have elected to delete peptide DM2* in claim 9.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. McCarthy, Reg. No. 46,044

Representative Capacity

Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C. Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400

2200 Clarendon Boulevard Arlington, Virginia 22201 Telephone: (703) 812-5322 Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Filed: November 1, 2002

K:\Merck\2034\REPLY.doc

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIM

9. (Amended) A modified recombinant allergen according to claim 8, selected from:

PM1
$$(N^{32} \rightarrow D, D^{49} \rightarrow L, K^{50} \rightarrow A)$$
 (SEQ ID NO. 88)

PM2
$$(D^{49} \rightarrow L, K^{50} \rightarrow A)$$
 (SEQ ID NO. 89)

PM3
$$(A^{13} \rightarrow C)$$
 (SEQ ID NO. 90)

DM1 (
$$\Delta$$
 K⁵⁰ \rightarrow P ^{Δ 132}, D⁴⁹ \rightarrow L) (SEQ ID NO. 91)

DM2
$$(\Delta \ F^{51} - G^{178}, \ D^{49} - L, \ K^{50} - A)$$
 (SEQ ID NO. 92) or

DM3
$$(\Delta A^{154} - T^{177}, A^{220} \rightarrow T)$$
 (SEQ ID NO. 93).